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AND
COLONIAL JOURNAL.

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DOMESTIC SLAVERY.

[COMMUNICATED.]

MR. EDITOR: I have lately met with a small work, entitled "*Some Thoughts concerning Domestic Slavery*," in which I have found more good practical common sense, than I have before read. It is in the form of a letter, from a gentleman of Pennsylvania to his friend in Baltimore. As I presume you could not conveniently publish the article at length, permit me to offer you the following analysis of it.

The writer remarks, that the phrases *rights of man*, *natural rights*, and the like, are ambiguous terms, and unsafe to bottom, generally, reasonings on. For as rights are conditional, the proper measure of them is to be found in the character of the man, and to every right is annexed the performance of a corresponding duty, as the tenure on which it is held. Rights, then, are various. To talk of equality of rights is absurd, and to talk of inalienable rights is not much better. For if rights are not inherent, and absolute, they are not inalienable—if they may be acquired, so also may they be lost. It may be asserted as a general truth, that all men have a right to political freedom; but may we not suppose a people, who, by their ignorance and vices, have shown themselves unfit for the possession of this right. Such people have found, in the government of a monarch, that peace and security which they were unable to procure for themselves. Nor should we be disposed to laud that spirit of misnamed philanthropy, which would busy itself in exciting a nation of this kind to revolt, under the plea that the people possessed a natural right to a free constitution.

Let us consider the doctrine of rights in relation to slavery. Personal freedom is doubtless a right which every man ought to possess; because no man ought to render himself incapable of using it properly. I would not reason with a man who should insist that slavery is not an evil, as a permanent part of social and political institutions. One who has known what it is to be free, need go no farther than his own instinctive feelings to be assured that slavery is a wrong, and a wrong in proportion

to the capacity which the enslaved possess of understanding and appreciating freedom. But such as know no other condition than servitude, having been born to it; who are satisfied with their situation and desire no other, being fit for no other; such persons are not conscious of injury and suffer none that I can see, except so far as the power of the master is used in an arbitrary and tyrannical manner. If political slavery be the only suitable condition for some people, it is but following out the analogy to suppose that personal servitude is the most proper condition for others, who are still farther sunk in imbecility. It may be the means of saving such a people from destruction, to put them under service to some more steady will than their own. Do you then ask, is slavery right? How vague the question! Who shall pretend to say that it is right? Nay, who does not see that it is utterly inconsistent, if continued permanently, with the full developement of the nobler feelings and faculties; or, in the view of the uses to which the enslaved are often put—such as of traffic, making merchandize of them, or putting them to cruel labor? But the question of right must be applied in reference to the state of those who are captives, and also to the character of those who are masters. It is only by reason of the conditions of the case that the relation becomes proper. How tyrannical would be the restraints which are imposed on minors, if they were put on grown men! Yet who complains of them when applied to children? In all communities of men the principle of subordination prevails. Ignorance does homage to wisdom; moral weakness seeks to be placed under the guidance of some power which it finds not in itself. Abuses of this principle prevail; these abuses, however, do not disprove the principle, but are evidences of its existence. The same rule of subordination, when it acts in reference to two classes, wherein civilization and barbarism are at the extremes, takes the relation of personal servitude on the one hand, and of personal control on the other.

When we speak of a system of slavery, there are several conditions to be taken into the account. Were the enslaved heretofore free and civilized? Were they capable of self-government? Then they suffer great injury. Have the masters used violence in subjecting their fellow men to bondage, for the purposes of gain or pleasure? Do they use their power with cruelty? Then they do great wrong. But in this, as in all other matters of opinion, we shall run into great absurdities, if we contemplate a mere abstract question, without regard to conditions and particulars. For although slavery, from its great liability to abuse, may be the source of the greatest evils that can befall mankind, yet, it is certain, that in itself it may be a perfectly natural and voluntary relation, which shall subsist to the mutual advantage of both parties. Providence may design a blessing to a degraded people, by placing them in bondage in a civilized community; not, indeed, with a view to perpetuity, but as a means of receiving the elements of useful knowledge, and of morals—for they could not well receive such elements in any other way. Is the course of discipline a severe one? How shall a nation or an individual attain to wisdom and virtue without severe schooling? So far from slavery being in itself always the violation of all rights and the consummation of all wrongs, I cannot conceive how a savage people could

dwell in a civilized community (if by any means brought thither) in any other relation. And knowing that they could maintain no other, they would desire no other, if good will and kindness prevailed in the civilized race in proportion to their superior knowledge. In such case, the power of the master would not be exercised with cruelty, nor would the servitude be continued longer than the condition of the subject required it, provided the relation could be changed without danger to either party. The slave would perceive how far his enlightened master surpassed him in the knowledge of things, in arts and useful contrivances. This consciousness of ignorance, while it produced humility, would be accompanied with a desire to learn. The relation of master and slave would, in such case, appear natural and proper.

The evils of slavery are to be found in the abuse of the ruling power; it affords occasion for the exercise of injustice, for the growth of selfish passions, which may soon weaken the hold of better feelings upon the heart, and may tempt us to make a state of things perpetual, which ought to endure only for a time. The situation of a master, so far from being coveted, brings with it relations of fearful responsibility, as he ought to look on himself somewhat as a guardian to those whom Providence has placed under his charge. But, when this responsibility comes, in the course of things, as by inheritance, in a community where slavery exists, it is in my judgment, no mark of magnanimity for a man to cast off the connexion that binds him to his slaves, and, under pretence of giving them freedom, to leave them without a guide or protector in the midst of a society where they can possess no rights, where they have few inducements to good conduct; where they are surrounded by a thousand incentives to indolence and vice. The matter is, of course, very different, when the master gives his slaves freedom, and at the same time places them in a situation where their freedom shall be to them a blessing. The act, then, becomes noble.

With respect to the African race amongst us: were they a free, civilized people, dwelling in harmony, under a government of wise laws, from which they were torn by violence and condemned to unaccustomed toil and degradation in a strange land? No, they were, as the natives of Western Africa are now, a barbarous, savage people; sunk in superstition, and given to all manner of rude, cruel and low customs. It would be difficult to find a race more abjectly sunk in human imbecility. Among the African tribes, as among all savage people, wars have been common; the natural state of savages may be said to be a state of war. In these wars, the invariable custom, has been, and still is, to make slaves of those who were taken captive. But if a tribe has slaves enough and they have no means of disposing of their prisoners, they put them to death. When a chief or head man dies, it is usual to kill several slaves at his funeral, that he may not want attendants in the other world. In 1796, when Mungo Park, the African Traveller visited that country, he found in the Gambia country that the free class of inhabitants composed only one-fourth of the population, the other three-fourths being in hopeless slavery. So that it appears, that the negroes sold to slave-dealers, and transported to this country, were delivered from a worse bondage at home than they have met with here.

I have not set forth this view of the subject for the purpose of justifying the traffic in slaves, which has been so long the disgrace of Christendom. It is proper that we should be acquainted with all the particulars which affect this question. We may thus find an antidote to that hasty sort of philanthropy, which viewing things from outward appearances only, is inflamed into a zeal without knowledge, which leads many to deplore the condition of a people, who are certainly gainers by their present captivity, who enjoy comforts which their ancestors never dreamt of, and are placed in situations where they may gain a knowledge of many useful arts, and receive the elements of true religious faith.

What then? Because, in the order of Providence, a state of servitude may become the means of ultimate good to the enslaved, and, in certain contingencies, such condition may be natural and proper, does it follow that we are to remain at ease, and do nothing for their deliverance? We ought rather to see that the final issue for good, depends upon our future action. To keep them in servitude perpetually, would be to defeat the purpose for which such servitude may be to them a blessing. Some rational means of restoring them to wholesome freedom ought to be adopted. They may not be conscious of having suffered wrong, but that does not remove from us the obligation to do them justice.

The evils of slavery having become apparent, it becomes the duty of enlightened conscience to provide the means for its removal. But it belongs only to those connected with this subject, to choose the time of action, and the mode of operation. It would be impertinent and wicked for persons whose interests had nothing to do with the subject to intrude on the moral freedom of masters in this particular. Whatever advice might be offered from abroad ought to be communicated in a spirit of kindness and sympathy.

Different modes of delivering the country from these evils have been proposed. The citizens of the North, who have no slaves, and but few colored people amongst them, warmly urge an immediate abolition of slavery, and the ultimate elevation of the black population to an equality with the white, in civil and religious privileges.

Without stopping to consider the practicability of this scheme, suppose it to be carried into effect, what would be the effect in any of the Southern States, where the whites and blacks are nearly equal in numerical force? Let it be remembered, at the same time, that the idea of amalgamation by intermarriages is abandoned by the Abolitionists themselves. Here would be two distinct races of men, in color, in modes of life, of thinking and feeling—the one far superior in knowledge, in refinement, in art, in property, in every thing that pertains to civilization. Can it be expected that these two different sorts of people would unite harmoniously in administering public affairs, or dwell together in unity? On the contrary, I think this proposition is confirmed by history and past experience; *that two distinct races of people, nearly equal in numbers, and unlike in color, manners, feelings and state of civilization, to such a degree that amalgamation is impossible, cannot dwell together in the same community, unless the one be in subjection to the other.*

In every state, there must be a common interest whereby to bind it together, from which will flow a harmony of parts and a common feeling of sympathy. The sovereign will of the state must be *one*. It may be called the soul of the State. If there be a rival power in the nation which is not subordinate, then there can be no harmony until the question of supremacy is settled. Hence, the early history of England, not to mention other nations of Europe, is filled with details of strifes between the throne and the Church. The governing power must not only be supreme, but every other power must be permanently subordinate. A foreign mass in the midst of a society with which it cannot assimilate, is as a dead member through which the life-blood of the body social does not circulate. A number of historical facts are introduced in confirmation of this truth.

The negroes of this country are in their first rudiments of knowledge. Let it not be expected that they should become authors before they can read. Nor let a mistaken philanthropy bewail their lot, and seek to take them too hastily from their course of tuition. There may be modifications of dispensing discipline; but it is folly to expect that wisdom will come without the toil of learning. There can be no proper analogy drawn between the slavery which exists in this country, and slavery as it has existed in any other country with which we are acquainted.—Among the Romans, the son of a freedman became a citizen. There emancipation could go on without the danger of creating a separate class. But, in this country, the free blacks must remain a distinct class; their color is an effectual bar against their admission into social equality. Emancipation, therefore, confers upon them little benefit; it would take them from one who might be their friend, and throw them into a society where all must be their enemies; it would deprive them of a protector without putting them into a condition of protecting themselves. Without political rights, emancipation would be no blessing to them; and with those rights, it would be ruinous to ourselves.

Were the blacks few in number, and therefore, little disposed to aspire after directing power, no harm would be likely to follow from their admission to political rights. They would then conform themselves to existing laws and would desire nothing more; but when, by their numbers, they may assume an equal, and consequently a rival power—for their aims and interests would be one—who does not see that the whole question is changed?

It is the characteristic of fanaticism to be concentrated on its end, and it can see no other means to remedy an evil, but such as promise to be the most speedy. Hence wisdom and discretion are banished from its councils. Observe the argument of the abolitionists, that slavery being sinful, it is in opposition to the will of our Creator and Supreme Lawgiver, and to continue it, is to brave the vengeance of Omnipotence.—This summary mode of reasoning and acting, this appropriating to one's self the special favor of Heaven for the purpose of judging of sins and vindicating the Divine Righteousness, has not now appeared for the first time in the world. When the Spaniards took possession of Mexico and Peru, they found the country occupied by an idolatrous people.—Idolatry being sinful, and sin in opposition to the Creator, it ought

immediately to cease; they therefore became the ministers and executioners of the Heavenly will, tore the idols from their shrines, and dragged the worshippers to the stake! But as fanaticism in modern times can no longer employ the arm of force to drive and torture recusants into conformity, it invokes public opinion, it arrays itself in the garments of holiness, and having taken the title of Heaven's Champion, it denounces all who join not with it as *reprobate*, as men who *fight against God!*

There is something to move one's indignation in these attempts so common at this day, to fulminate public opinion against particular abuses, so as to have the appearance of intimidation and force. What legitimate power has any opinion, except so far as it embody the form of truth and virtue? Is the truth impotent unless it be conjoined with human passions? *Must the wrath of God be invoked to work out the righteousness of God?* Is there no meaning in the declaration of the Almighty, "vengeance is mine, I will repay it?"

What then? Have we not a right to speak our sentiments? Indubitably. But not in a spirit of bravado. Is it not our duty to proclaim what we believe to be the truth? It is, at proper times, and to such as are willing to receive it, and are in a condition to profit by it. But shall we organize societies, raise money, establish periodicals, fill the whole country with excitement by means of inflammatory harangues, in order to convince the public of some speculative truth, when, in charity, we might suppose them to be as capable as we to discover it for themselves? We think not. In general, good citizens find it sufficient to attend to their own concerns, and leave it to their neighbors to do the same. Or, if any one thinks he is specially called as an apostle to interfere with the interests of others, and that he has the power of thus doing good, let him become a member of the community which he proposes to serve, where he will have the best opportunity of doing so with effect.

In respect to the question of domestic slavery, the people of the South have manifested no backwardness in their attention to it. A few years ago, this subject was freely discussed in some of the States, and the process of reformation seemed to be going on in a legitimate way. The evil was generally acknowledged; for though Governor M'Duffie of South Carolina has expressed a different sentiment, his opinion is, evidently, not that of the most enlightened people of the Southern States. Most of the prominent men in the Board of the American Colonization Society are gentlemen of influence from the Southern States, and who shall impeach the integrity of these high-minded men? A full avowal of the sentiment was made by Mr. Clay, at a meeting of the Kentucky Colonization Society, not long ago. Let the life of this great man, a life full of noble and consistent actions, speak for the purity of his motives.

It is true that the tone of the South on this subject has within these few years undergone a change. The cause is to be found in the violence and misguided zeal of Northern abolitionists. They declaim in a vague manner on the rights of man, utter abstract truths, which being general and indefinite, may, by a rash application, produce the most

dangerous results. As an eminent writer has lately said, "they have fallen into the common error of enthusiasts, that of exaggerating their object, of feeling as if no evil existed but that which they opposed, and as if no guilt could be compared with that of countenancing or upholding it. The tone of their newspapers, as far as I have seen them, has often been fierce, bitter, abusive. Their imaginations have fed too much on the pictures of the cruelty to which the slave is exposed, till not a few have probably conceived of his abode as perpetually resounding with the lash, and ringing with the shrieks of agony." Again, "the abolitionists send forth their orators, some of them transported with a fiery zeal, to sound the alarm against slavery through the land, to gather together young, old, pupils from schools, females hardly arrived at years of discretion, the ignorant, the excitable, the impetuous, and organize these into associations for the battle against oppression. They preach their doctrines to the colored people, and collect these into their societies. To this mixed and excitable multitude, appeals are made in the piercing tones of passion, and slave-holders are held up as monsters of cruelty and crime."

But how entirely is all this overbearing anxiety on the subject of slavery a subject of supererogation. Are not there men of good hearts and intelligent minds among the people of the slave-holding States? Who doubts that the South contains within itself all the elements that are necessary to self-redemption from any evils into which the inadvertence of former generations have brought it? Not only has a proper disposition been manifested by the wise and good of the Southern people towards considering the subject; but, unlike the blind agitations which are often the premonitory tokens of a coming reformation, their efforts seem to have been unfortunate in an uncommon degree, as it respects the direction which their plans have taken. They have hit on the principle which is the only one on which any safe and effectual system can be devised of ultimately delivering this country from the evil of slavery, with security to both races, and with any prospect of final good to the blacks. In the conception of this scheme, I am willing to believe there is to be seen the germ of a future growth of blended wisdom and benevolence which shall be the glory of this country and of the age.

Is it objected that no provision is made for the emancipation of slaves? Let not impatience outrun the order of things. Every work must have a beginning, whether the design be great or small, and perfection is not usually the characteristic of beginnings. I had designed to dwell at large upon the plan and prospects of African Colonization; but I will treat of these topics in a future letter. I will then show that Colonization is not a new or untried system, but has been practised in all ages of the world since the days of Noah; that colonies have generally outstripped the parent country, as may be illustrated by numerous examples in history, both ancient and modern. I shall show how African Colonization differs from all other examples of Colonization; how the special direction of Providence seems manifest in making the captivity of negroes in this country, the means of introducing knowledge and civilization into Africa, which, in the ordinary course of human events could hardly gain admission in any other manner.

It is not a vain imagination that fills my mind, when I view, in prospect, the glory of this undertaking. I found my prognostications on the nobleness of the principles which are its basis. There have been colonies planted for the purposes of trade; there have been settlements made in foreign parts, by reason of violence and persecution at home; in avaricious pursuits of gold; or to serve as receptacles for the emptying of jails, but never before, in the history of human kind, has benevolence thus sought to propagate itself by the deliverance of captives; by the raising up of the oppressed, by the nurture and protection of the unfriended. I sincerely hope that the excellent spirit which has given birth to this great system, may continue to direct its unfolding energies; may it never depart from it; but may it henceforth insure a consummation worthy of such a beginning.

A FRIEND TO THE COLONIZATION CAUSE.

A LECTURE NOTICED.

The Colonization Herald of August 15, adverting to a declaration of Lieut. Governor Williams, that "the most hostile feelings towards the old Colony and every thing connected with it," are entertained by the inhabitants of Bassa Cove and Edina, says it "is not sustained by any thing which has reached us. Such imputations ought not to be made at all without strong proof, nor published without strong necessity. We cannot see the existence of either in this case."

The statement referred to was made in an official despatch from the acting Governor of Liberia to the Managers of the American Colonization Society, and was by them deemed sufficiently important to be made the subject of especial instructions to that officer, enjoining on him to exert all his influence in persuading the citizens of Monrovia to hold friendly relations towards the citizens of the other colonial settlements. The Managers also took occasion to suggest, in very respectful terms, to the Societies which had founded the settlement of Bassa Cove, and into whose jurisdiction Edina had prematurely passed, to adopt some eligible mode of urging the inhabitants of those settlements to cultivate similar relations towards the colonists under the immediate jurisdiction of the Parent Society. Such proceedings in the United States would, it was hoped, be operative in tranquillizing feelings of irritation at the several settlements, which, if fostered, must endanger the safety of them all, and discredit the cause of African Colonization.

The Editor of the Colonization Herald professes that he cannot see the existence of any proof of Mr. William's statement, nor the necessity for publishing it. And yet, it must be admitted to be within the compass of possibility that the proof may be ample, and that the necessity may be, in his own phraseology, "potential and continued." At all events, the Managers deemed the proof was sufficient, and that the interests of all parties would be favorably affected by publishing the fact. It has been their uniform habit to tell the truth, and the whole

truth, in relation to the Colony, neither suppressing a fact, because it was unfavorable, nor circulating favorable statements, by whatever source suggested, or by whatever authority countenanced, which they had reason to distrust.

THE MASSILLON AND HARTFORD SOCIETIES.

"The organization of the Massillon and Hartford Colonization Societies are [is] we believe, indicative of the feelings of the inhabitants generally of that great state, [Ohio], whose sympathies on all important matters, whether of internal improvement or of education, or of jurisprudence, are with *Pennsylvania*."

The above is copied, except the bracket and italicizing, which are our own, from the Colonization Herald of August 15. If, as this paragraph has been supposed to insinuate, Colonization principles in Pennsylvania differ from the principles of the American Colonization Society, the worthy editor is somewhat hasty in claiming the sympathies, in his sense of the word, of the Massillon Society. On reading the constitution of that Society,* which he publishes, he will find that by its very first article it is auxiliary to the "*American Colonization Society*," and that the second article declares its object to be, "to aid the *Parent Institution at Washington*."

The proceedings of the Hartford Colonization Society, referred to by the Herald, appear in another part of our present number. One of the Resolutions distinctly sets up the principles and constitution of the American Colonization Society as a model. The first Resolution, in recommending an application to Congress for a grant of certain lands suitable for planting a colony within the territory of the United States, announces a policy, which, though not prohibited by the constitution of the Parent Society, has never been supported by that Institution. Are we to infer that it is advocated by the Pennsylvania Society?

* See this Constitution in our last number, vol. 14, p. 228.

LETTER FROM MR. MATTHIAS.

PHILADELPHIA, Vine St. No. 27, betwixt }
11th & 12th Sts., AUGUST 20, 1838. }

Rev. Sir: I accidentally came in possession of the June number of the African Repository a few days since, and was much surprised to find in the letter of Lieut. Governor Williams a statement purporting "that the colonies of Bassa Cove and Edina were hostile in their feelings towards the old Colony, and every thing connected with it," &c. I beg you to be assured that this, in the general, is not true. The feelings of some of the Edina people have doubtless been soured by some acts of the old Colony growing out of the secession of the former from the latter, and their union with Bassa Cove; with which acts you are

acquainted. As for my part, I could have no motive to indulge in hostile feelings towards the sister Colony, but have endeavoured in all my intercourse with it to be governed by the kindest feelings; and so far as I am acquainted, the people in Bassa Cove and Edina, with perhaps a few exceptions, are actuated by the same feelings.

I could give a little different version of the affair of the arrest of Green Hoskins, but at present do not deem it necessary to say more than that he was not arrested by my order, or with my knowledge, but by one of the Magistrates of Edina; but upon a full acquaintance with all the circumstances of the case, I could not condemn the arrest as illegal or without cause.

If you will give publicity to this paper in the Repository, you will oblige your obedient servant,

JOHN I. MATTHIAS.

To Rev. R. R. GURLEY.

AFRICAN SKETCHES.

Our last number contained an interesting article entitled "*First Impressions on visiting Liberia*," from the pen of Dr. M'Dowall. His purpose is to continue his remarks, under the title of "*African Sketches*," which title is therefore given to this second article:

No. II.

Climate, Soil, and Productions of Liberia.

The climate of Liberia is very uniform, its variations depending on the season of the year, and the elevation or depression of the soil. It is remarkable neither for extreme heat, nor disagreeable chilliness. There is nothing more striking to the stranger on his first visit to this part of Africa, than to find the temperature of the atmosphere so balmy and pleasant, nay, sometimes even cool. When the inhabitants of northern regions are pinched with cold and frost, the healthy resident there, enjoys a delightful warmth, tempered by the fresh sea breeze.

Nature divides the years into two seasons, the dry and the rainy. It is very commonly supposed that the one is characterized by scorching heat, and the other by a continual rain, neither of which is true. The rains follow the sun in his annual passage to either tropic; the rainy season being at its height wherever he is for the time vertical. This season begins at the Colonies, about the end of May, or beginning of June, varying either sooner or later, as may be. It is ushered in by heavy showers during the night, accompanied with tornadoes from the sea, subsiding in the same manner, with this exception, that the tornadoes blow from the land. These tornadoes in their season, more particularly occur at the changes of the moon; nor are they by any means so violent as is generally imagined, seldom doing any mischief, except rooting up a tree now and then. The thermometer at this time

ranges from 72° to 80° , and when at 72° feels cool and chilly to the unacclimated. The barometer varies very little, not even during a violent tornado. It is therefore, not of much use to navigators on that coast, as it is in the West Indies, and other higher latitudes. The rainy seasons are generally more violent and long continued at the Gambia and Sierra Leone, than at Liberia. The average quantity of rain during the season, may be stated at 120 inches. It is evident also from the rise of the rivers in the Colony, which often happens, without any rain, that it falls often in the interior, at their mountainous sources without affecting the coast. Ten days rain a month will be about the average, the remainder being pleasant sunshine, or merely cloudy.

Throughout the dry season as well as the rainy, the forest is always clothed with its thick green foliage, although the grass and plants may be somewhat affected by the heat, more particularly vegetables raised from American seed. The want of rain is in a great measure compensated by the heavy dews at night: so much so, that in walking through the woods early in the morning, one gets completely wetted through, a circumstance that ought to be avoided by the new emigrant. The thermometer, during this season, seldom rises above 86° , or falls below 74° , in the shade.

Soil.—The prevailing feature of this part of the coast is a low level, interrupted here and there by high headlands, all covered with shrubs and trees. The landscape, when viewed from a distance, is rather monotonous and unexciting. On a closer inspection, the many hues of the forest, from blood red to the deepest green, tall trees, hung with festoons of wild vines, dispersed like the most graceful drapery, it assumes the air of high interest and pleasing beauty. On sailing down the coast, from Cape Mesurado towards Cape Palmas, ranges of high mountains are seen, blue in the distance.

Near the seacoast the soil is light and sandy, yet from this soil most of the wild coffee plants, brought by the natives for sale, are obtained. As you proceed up the rivers, the soil becomes heavier, containing a greater admixture of clay and vegetable matter. The farmer who would estimate the fertility of the African soil by its appearance, and his experience of the same sort of soil in America, would be apt to give an unfavorable report. But for all purposes of tropical agriculture, it seems every way suited, and the complaints made against it have been urged more as excuses for want of industry than the result of fair experiment.

Water.—The water, of the rainy season, is cool, pure and refreshing, seeming comparatively as cold as ice water, during a hot summer in America. In the dry season, the water is obtained from springs, and can always be had in most places, cool and fresh, by digging sufficiently deep, a resource which, until lately, had not been very generally resorted to. Colonists trading in the country, have spoken in high terms of the water of the interior, on the higher grounds. In the forest there is to be found a thick vine, of five or six inches in diameter, which is found wound round the larger trees. On cutting off a piece of it, a few feet in length, there runs from its porous texture, in considerable abundance, water almost as fresh and pure as rain water. It was first pointed out to me by the natives, upon complaining of thirst, when travelling in the

woods. I could not help admiring this beautiful provision of Providence for one of the most important wants of his intelligent creatures in that country.

Vegetables.—Of all the grains indigenous to Africa, rice is the most important, and happily, the most abundant, and easily produced. It is to the native, emphatically, “the staff of life.” The planting of his rice farm is wisely with him a duty, to which he sacrifices all others. The season selected is just before the accession of the rains. Indeed Nature herself points it out to the native, by signs not to be misunderstood. Walking in the woods at this time, I found a large tree of the leguminous family, which scatters its seed with a loud noise, caused by the bursting of the pod. Before I discovered the cause of the peculiar noise, I asked my native attendant what it was. He showed me a species of large bean falling around us, and said that whenever that tree began to scatter its seeds, it was time for “country man go put rice in the ground.” The rice is planted in dry ground, and not in swamps, but in the rainy season it has all the advantage of water without any inundation. Millet, maize, and potatoes, are planted by the natives; in the planting of the latter, they have imitated the Colonists. The sweet potato grows in great abundance in the Colony. Cassada is also grown by the Colonists, and if planted at different intervals, may be had all the year round. Indian corn, when green, is brought into the settlements for sale by the natives. It would, I think, be a more profitable crop to the Colonists than rice, which requires more watching and trouble. From American seed, cucumbers, melons, pumpkins, squashes, tomatoes, okra, &c., grow nearly as well as they do in America. An arbor of lima beans will supply the table four or five years, if taken care of.

Among the fruits there are the sweet and bitter oranges, plantains, pine apples, bananas, papaws, lemons, limes, guavas, and soursips. This last is one of the most delicious fruits in the world, for a warm climate; it may be eaten at all times. It has a pleasant acid taste. It cannot be exported; like the domestic wines of the south of Europe, it can only be enjoyed in its own climate. Cotton, indigo, coffee, sugar, cayenne pepper, arrow root, are all to be found growing in the Colony, but in small quantities. From the cotton, many of the Colonists have supplied themselves with stockings, and cloth has been woven at Edina. The Carolina indigo, and other wild species, grow abundantly in the streets. The seed of the former was brought from South Carolina, by some emigrants from that State. The natives use the leaves of a tree, in dyeing their fine blues, which they conceal.

A great many specimens of coffee trees may be seen bearing in the Colony, particularly at Monrovia. In their season, they are loaded with berries. This coffee is the best I ever drank, and I am sure would enrapture the most fastidious Turkman. I know nothing more delightful than the perfume arising from the coffee trees when in flower; it rivals

“The gardens of Gul in her bloom.”

Those beautiful trees, silently point with their loaded branches to themselves as the basis of individual wealth, and Colonial prosperity.

The forest trees offer a great variety of valuable vegetable products, such as gums, gum resins, caoutchouc, might be collected with some trouble; and there are many valuable astringent barks on the trees. Indeed this property seems almost universal among the barks of trees. The mallaguetta pepper grows wild and plentiful. A species of aloe is found growing all along the beach, the fibres of which are superior to hemp in making ropes, closely resembling the manilla. Baskets and mats are made of a sort of grass, and tastefully dyed. The various uses to which the palm tree might be applied, has been often mentioned. It is decidedly the most graceful object in all the vegetable kingdom. Seen waving in the breeze like a gigantic warrior's plume, it may well be adopted as the emblem of victory. It is to the African what the reindeer is to the Norwegian, and other inhabitants of a cold climate. His dish of rice is tasteless and incomplete without the oil of its nut; its leaves thatch his hut: with the bark of its branches he makes mats for his bed; its undeveloped tender shoots, from its summit, afford him cabbage for his food, and then he distils from its huge porous trunk, wine to cheer his heart. How kindly and usefully has a beneficent Providence adapted the external world, to the various wants and circumstances of his creatures!

Animals.—Domestic animals have not yet become very abundant in the Colony of Liberia, for the same reason that all other things are yet on a small scale. They have cows, bullocks, goats and sheep, in considerable numbers, most of which have been obtained from the natives and others raised in the Colony. The cows are smaller than the American, and give less milk. Some of the bullocks are pretty large, and a few pairs have been put in the yoke. There is some difficulty in buying them from the natives, and they demand a considerable price for them. This evil might be remedied by having a vessel to purchase stock to the southward, and selling them at a reasonable price to the Colonists. The inveterate habit of stealing, among the natives, and also among some of the more worthless Colonists has checked the attempt at raising stock. There is, I believe, one horse at Monrovia, which was brought from Sierra Leone, and one donkey at Edina. Agriculture is much retarded for the want of beasts of burden. Poultry is not abundant in the Colony, the same cause preventing the increase, as that alleged for the small number of cattle. It is remarkable that animals brought to Africa from America, are subject to disease. Horses may be purchased at the Cape d'Veud Islands, or at Gambia, which thrive very well at the Colony, more particularly at the upper settlements.

The surrounding woods give shelter to a great variety of wild animals, of which the most formidable is the leopard, which often carries away dogs, goats and pigs, out of the upper settlements, at night. They do not however, attack a man unless wounded. A species of wild hog is also found and occasionally killed by the Colonists. It differs very much from the European hog; it is very fierce and dangerous when attacked. It is said to be good eating, and very much sought after by the people. Antelopes are also abundant, and often hunted by the Colonists for the sake of their flesh.

The rivers abound with excellent fish, though, from their propensity to leap, they often escape over the seine. Oysters are plenty in the Junk and St. John's rivers, of fine flavor, and scarcely inferior to the American. The shells are burned to make lime. R. McD.

FROM LIBERIA.

Extracts from the Liberia Herald February, March and April, 1838, only recently received.

EXPEDITION.—We have just been handed a parcel of letters from America, via Bassa Cove. These arrived by the Ship Marine, which brought 75 emigrants. Mr. Louis Sheridan, who has been some time expected, is among the number. We cordially wish them a gentle visitation by the fever. The Post starts almost immediately in order to reach before the vessel sails. We have been all confusion to get some answers for our numerous correspondents.—*February.*

LITTLE BASSA.—This section of country lying between Junk and St. John's rivers is subdivided by the natives into numerous portions, with as many different names. It has never, at any time, of which we have been able to obtain correct information been united under one Government. Even in the reign of old King Wess, who is generally mentioned by the Bassa people, as the greatest King the country ever had, it was divided into two or three distinct sovereignties, but they partook more of the form and regularity of Governments, than at any period since his death, King Wess was succeeded in the Horsetail, by Tom Basa. He was for a long time mate to old Wess; under his government the country enjoyed a considerable degree of tranquillity. He died about four years ago. After his death, the country was convulsed by the agitation of factions and claimants for rule. His son, a stupid, but haughty youth, claimed the crown in the right of his father. He possessed a large force for this part of Africa, and serious apprehensions were at one time entertained, that he would reign perforce. Veneration for old usages and customs, at length prevailed, and his claim was made to yield to the grey beard of Par-Kolo,* who reigned only a few months and died. Since his death, a successor has not been chosen. Bar-ge, Par-Koblo's mate, is heir presumptive, but is not yet crowned. The country therefore, is in a state of ferment. The demise of a king in Africa, is the knell of all order, and the signal for confusion, robbery, and murder. The sea-line of Bassa, is about twenty-seven miles. The territory is compressed nearly into the form of a triangle, by the Atlantic, the St. John's and Junk rivers, and is a peninsula, as these rivers form nearly a junction in the interior, after running about seventy or eighty miles each. The course of the Junk is about North East, that of the St. John's, North, 30 degrees east. These rivers are not navigable for any distance, except by canoes and small boats, in consequence of the ledges of rocks, that run across them. The country abounds in Camwood and Palm-oil. Hundreds of tons of Camwood and thousands of gallons of Oil have been annually shipped from there notwithstanding the difficulties to be encountered in getting it to the sea shore. Nearly all the wood and oil have hitherto been conveyed on the heads and backs of the natives. From some unaccountable oversight or miscalculation, the factories have been located on the beach in the centre, between the two rivers; so that with the exception of the wood that is brought down by water to Edina, all the hundreds of tons of wood and the thousands of gallons of oil, that have been shipped from that place, have been brought the slow and expensive route by land. When settlements shall be formed on the rivers and men of enterprise and capital shall direct their attention to the subject, the whole world may be supplied with camwood from Bassa alone. Fifty miles from the sea shore, and the only wood that is used, is camwood. It is used alike for building and for fuel. In fact, the whole forest is Camwood.

* Formerly mate to King Basa.

FATAL ACCIDENTS.—On the 17th ultimo four men in a canoe, bound to Millsburg, when about six miles below that settlement, spied a very large snake swimming across the river. They made chase with intention of killing him. As soon as the snake perceived their object, he faced about, and swam directly for the canoe and attempted to board it. The men became alarmed and rising confusedly up, the canoe lost its centre of gravity, and precipitated them all into the water. Two of them immediately sunk to rise no more; the others narrowly escaped by swimming ashore. This case is very singular; we have frequently pursued snakes in the water, and have never known them to show any disposition, but that of utmost determination to escape. Whether this snake turned for the purpose of giving battle to his pursuers; or whether wearied in swimming by his unusual bulk, he merely sought the canoe as a place of rest, we cannot determine. But as a course we intend hereafter to pursue, under similar circumstances, we would give it as our advice, to let those animals pass undisturbed, unless instruments should be at hand, to fight them at a distance. At Millsburg, another

FATAL ACCIDENT occurred on the 7th instant. A number of the late emigrants by the Emperor, went down to the river for the purpose of ablution. A girl of about 12 years of age, by some means, got beyond her depth, and immediately sunk. Unfortunately none of the company could swim. The alarm was immediately given. Some of the most expert swimmers in Millsburg, were in a few moments on the spot, and plunged into the water. The search was continued in the vicinity of the scene of the accident for some hours, to no purpose. The body did not make its appearance from the first time it sunk under the water. A circumstance to be accounted for, from the strong current setting in the direction of the innumerable radii of the mangrove, near which she went down. On the 9th inst. the body was found in a state of great mutilation.—*February.*

IVORY TRADE.—We understand a Spaniard has, for the last week or two, been actively employed in purchasing Ivory from the Mandingoes at King Willey's Town. Though it is by no means to the interest of the Colony, that foreigners should divert this species of trade from flowing in its wonted channel to the Colony, yet its effects are infinitely less deleterious to us than the slave trade.—*February.*

VISIT OF A FRENCH SHIP.—On the 14th ult. His Most Christian Majesty's Ship *Triumphante* arrived in our harbour. This ship has taken the whole coast of Africa, in her way from the Mediterranean to this place, and designs extending her cruise to the River Gabon. The officers while here, visited the shore daily, perambulating the town and adjacent woods, searching for whatever of Africa might chance fall in their way. They professed themselves highly pleased with what they saw in the way of improvement, and the numerous pressing invitations to "take pot luck" with which our people never fail to ply strangers, were promptly reciprocated by invitations to visit the ship. It was our misfortune to be unable, from a multiplicity of engagements, to accept the invitation, but the good reports brought by those who availed themselves of the invitation, of politeness and good cheer on board, have formed in us the settled purpose, that in future no consideration, either public or private, shall stand in the way of doing the ceremonies of so honorable an occasion.—*February.*

EXPEDITION.—Arrived on the 12th ult. Ship *Emperor*, with ninety six emigrants from Virginia. Of which, 60 were emancipated by John Smith, sen. Esq. of Sussex County. These people have been all bred to farming, and we hope they will prove an important accession to the agricultural interest of the colony. The physicians of the colony being united, and unequivocal in their verdict in favor of the superior healthfulness of the inland settlements over that of Monrovia, these emigrants have all been placed at Caldwell and Millsburg; an event that will put this opinion to the test. Our opinion is, that either place is healthful. There is no earthly occasion that colored people should die, in establishing themselves in Africa. Let them only avoid the actual and obvious causes of disease; (which is neither more difficult nor more necessary to be done here, than in all other countries,) and they may live their three score years and ten, and if they should have on their arrival good cheer and plenty, they may even attain four score years. There came passengers in this ship, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Clark, to join the

sustains its Patrician aspect, and presents a commanding view of the town, the harbour and a considerable extent of the surrounding country. In front of the whole the St. John's with a graceful curve and rapid sweep pours his waters over the bar into the ocean. Wheeling to the north, the eye rests on Edina, stretching away to the westward until its career is arrested by an eminence surmounted by the establishment of the Baptist Mission. On the whole, Bassa Cove and Edina form together a scene truly romantic and pleasing, and but for that plaguy Bar, we should resolve that our trips in the future should not be as they have hitherto, "Like angel visits, few and far between." Though we have not received their expressed permission, yet we are confident of the cordial approbation of all the passengers, in presenting with ours their grateful acknowledgements to the officers of the Emperor, for their kind and courteous treatment.—*February.*

FARMING.—If argument were yet wanted, in favor of the comparative ease, and practicability of African farming:—if it yet remained to be proved, that agriculture will open a certain and unfailing source of comfort and competency; we should conclude that no other argument was wanted, to set the matter forever at rest, than pointing at the astonishingly and almost incredibly rapid improvements, which have recently been made on the southern bank of the St. Paul's, by some of our citizens, that have been only a few weeks in the business. Having heard much of the farms, and of the great things that are doing, and to be done, we determined to deepen our former deep conviction on the subject, by personal inspection. In pursuance of this determination, we have devoted a couple of days of this moon to a visit up the river. Arriving in the vicinity of the farms, it became a matter of serious deliberation, at which to make the first call. This question could be settled only by the determination of another—who can furnish the best table, whether Roberts, Lewis, or Cheesman? Here we had to press memory to our assistance. Roberts's boat had been seen to start from the wharf with boxes, barrels, and other packages; what could they contain? Not ploughs, nor hoes, nor axes. They must have been edibles. "Pull away, boys, we no stop Miss Lewis farm now, we go dere bym'bye. We go Miss Roberts farm." Off we went, and soon our progress was arrested by the rocks which form the landing. Here we (our worthy friend and counsellor, James Brown, being with us, and having partaken largely in our deliberations,) were met by the proprietor, with the cordiality and frankness, which every where distinguish the actual lords of the soil, and welcomed to the farm. Though we labored under the dimness of vision and disinclination to every kind of speculation, which an empty stomach never fails to produce; we had but cast our eyes around, when the reflection at once forced itself upon us,—how foolish our people are to be wasting their time and energy in fruitless mercantile pursuits, from which it is impossible, they can at present reap any permanent advantage, to the neglect of the cultivation of the soil, which will yield so speedy and ample returns for the time and labor bestowed upon it. We are not visionary. We will not pretend as some have, that our soil is the most productive on earth. Nor that it is the most kind in yielding all the articles of necessity and comfort. We know not what may be in other, and to us unknown portions of this terrene; we know not how fertile lands may be in other places. Nor are we much concerned, as this is nearly the only place on earth, where there is any thing in earth or air, that can gratify our feelings. It is sufficient for our purpose to be able to declare without any fear of contradiction, from those acquainted with the subject, that the land is as fertile, and will yield as abundantly, as any, of which the most experienced of the American settlers have any knowledge, in the land from which they came. When we have said this (and we might say more, strictly consistent with truth,) we have surely said enough to silence those irresolute and disgraceful complaints against the water, the air, the land, and the every thing else that requires a little labor. Think, thought we to ourselves, of the unreasonableness of men complaining of being too poor to *farm it*, or of being unable to make a living by agriculture, when at the same time, they possess an unlimited extent of a soil, to which all articles necessary to comfort, are indigenous, and of many of which it will produce two crops a year. Unconsciously, we fell to enumerating the articles, which with a moderate expenditure of money and labor, may be raised on an extent of land, which any man in the colony may procure if he please. First, there is the cassada, an excellent farinacious *radex*, good alike for myself and *mine pig*; secondly, potatoes; thirdly, corn—a farina with

whose qualities, Americans have not now to be acquainted; fourthly, almost every description of beans and peas; fifthly, a variety of sallads too tedious to mention; sixthly, rice, which impinguates one-half of the people of the globe; seventhly, large list of succulents,—pumpkins, watermelons, papaws, which last is a *fac simile* of the pumpkin, the cantilope, and the green apple for pies; eighthly, sugar cane; ninthly, coffee; and tenthly, the palm, in the leaves of which, you have shingles for your houses, and hats for your heads. In the sap, you have your wine; in the fruit, lard for your table, and oil to cheer the darkness of the night; and if avaricious, and make a stern requisition upon the full resources of the tree, you have, by decapitation, a most delightful cabbage. Wonderful tree! who would not have a score of them? A goodly array of vegetables, but what in the meat line? Why, here are cows, sheep, goats, hogs, ducks, turkeys, (we have no need of geese, we are here ourselves,) and fowls. But, then, if a man should devote the whole of his time and attention to these articles, how will he be clothed? Important consideration. Mrs. may not be able to wear so many satins, nor sport such amplitude of sleeves, nor exhibit an ankle shrouded in glossy silk. But it occurred to us, that cotton makes good and comfortable apparel, and further, that cotton is another vegetable indigenous to this soil. Admitting, then, that his neighbor will be in the same condition with himself, and that no vessel calling here, will be in want of a pig or a duck, or a few vegetables, which is a thing very unlikely; if a few acres in one corner of the farm, were allotted to the production of cotton, the last and only remaining difficulty would be overcome. Here then, is a congeries on one farm of what, to be collected in almost any other country, would require that many different and distant climes be explored! Here, if a man incline to the churl and possess a spice of the misanthrope, he may immure himself within the walls of his enclosure, move about in a little world of his own creation, and have no other communication with the exterior world, than occasionally cocking his ear above his walls, to feast his malignant soul with the cries of the half starved wretches, who have no farms. Here our reverie was disturbed by the announcement from a cassada eating urchin, 'breakfast is ready, sir.' There was no time for ceremony. Following the boy, we were introduced to a scene which resuscitated in our recollection what we had read about the squatters, in the forests of America. In the centre of a floor of nature's workmanship, on a *table*, which was once, and continued to be, a *box*, the breakfast, wholesome and substantial, was spread. Auxiliary to the teeth, were three knives and three forks; the latter containing three prongs, all told. Beside each man's plate, was a quart of good old stuff, from nature's distillery. Down, on what the classic ancients called tripods, but what we call *stools*, and at it we went. "Excuse the breakfast, gentlemen, said the host; I did not expect you." Wish you had, muttered we, to ourselves. "I must apologize for the arrangements," continued he, "you know I have only been established here a short time." Wish you had been five years, rejoined we, secretly. The potatoes, cassada, and fish, underwent a rapid discussion. Not a word was said, not even on politics, on which we are so passionately fond of discoursing. This important business despatched, we proceeded to an examination of the farm. We now give our opinion in the gross as favorable, as the fare was not exactly the thing we expected; details we may probably give at some future time, of all the farms. Before which, we now put in the caveat, that we may again visit them. We hope these gentlemen will remember, that editors are curious *kriturs*. They never give their recommendations gratis. Their hand is a perfect automaton. Nothing imparts more strength and clearness to their description, than a good dinner. It clears the head, defecates the visual organ, and enables them to see beauties, where none ever existed, and to discover ingenious contrivances in a machine that is, perhaps, as useless as the head that recommends it, is stupid.—*March*.

SCHOOLS.—One very pleasing feature in the general aspect of the times, is the increased and increasing attention which is turned towards the intellectual condition of the colony, and of Africa generally. This is manifest, no less by the numerous school associations of benevolent individuals in America, than by the vigorous efforts and liberal outlays for the purpose, which they are directing to be made here. We have had several letters lately on this subject, from members of said associations. The two last, one from Miss Brend and the other from Miss Davidson, secretaries of their respective societies of Richmond and Philadelphia, manifest an interest, which, it is most pleasing to witness. There are at present, eight schools

in the old Colony. Four of these are supported by the Mission of the M. E. Church. One of these is at Caldwell; one at New Georgia; one in this town; and one at Junk. Of the actual condition of their schools we are not prepared to speak from personal observation. We have assurance, however, in the persevering and energetic character of the Superintendent, that they are conducted in as efficient a manner as the peculiar circumstances will admit. The school in this place, attached to the M. E. Church, is perhaps, the largest in the Colony, and is composed of all the more advanced children drawn from the other schools. This school, we believe, was opened in the meeting house, in January last. Three of the remaining schools are supported by the Ladies' Association, of Philadelphia. One at Caldwell, under the tuition of Miss Warner; one at New Georgia, under the Rev. Mr. Eden; and another in this place, under Mrs. Evans. These schools have about seventy scholars; but only fifty five attend regularly, owing in a great measure to the poverty of their parents and guardians. Their progress has been much retarded by the want of a sufficient number of proper books, and by the inability of parents to clothe the children sufficiently decent to appear at school. The number in these schools, when we visited them in January last was fifty-eight.

We were pleased with the general appearance and attainments of the children, but as that was the first formal visit for the purpose of inspection, a full expression of opinion on the subject, we shall leave to be the result of a second examination. The orphan school in this place, under the tuition of Mrs. Crawford, is supported by the Ladies' Society of Richmond, for the promotion of female education in Liberia. This school, though by far the most important and interesting one in this town, has been languishing for the want of books. Only about fifteen children attend regularly, owing to the destitution of clothes. We think favorably of the school, yet it needs some regeneration: the progress is as great as can be reasonably expected, from the unfortunate condition of the children, for whom this school was established. Unfortunately for the credit of the school, our visit (by request of the Society) was immediately after some of the most forward children had left, and entered the school of the Methodist Mission.

Our recent visit to Edina, afforded us the opportunity long desired, of visiting the native school at that place, under the charge of the Missionaries of the Baptist Board of Foreign Missions. The school at present consists of thirteen children, from eight to fourteen years of age. They all live in the Mission family, and are as much as possible, prevented from having any communication with their native brethren. Of the number, six read fluently in the Bible, and have also an acquaintance with the rudiments of Grammar, Geography, and Arithmetic, truly astonishing. We acknowledge that we listened to their exercises with a degree of scepticism, and were inclined to the conclusion, that they read and recited "by rote," and to confirm or remove our doubts, requested permission to examine them, which was readily granted. We did so with promiscuous questions on the subjects of their studies, and we are gratified to say, their ready and correct answers, entirely removed our suspicion. The rest of the number are in from two to four syllables, and easy reading lessons. We make no comment; the bare statement is sufficient. In juxtaposition with this, it should be mentioned, that we have just printed a new and improved edition of the "Bassa Spelling Book," by the Rev. W. G. Crocker, of the Baptist Mission at Edina. We intend forwarding a copy to America, with the hope that some of the American reviewers will favor the work by a critique on the faithfulness of the translation.

We ought by no means, omit to mention the excellent and durable school-houses, with which the associations for education in Liberia, are adorning the Colony. The Missionary Society of the M. E. Church, is erecting a commodious one, the walls of which are nearly completed. This house is 44 feet by 24, and stands nearly in front of, and only a few rods from another, erected by the Ladies' Society of Richmond, 30 feet by 20. The walls of both of these houses are of stone. That of the Ladies of Richmond, has been up for some months and partly covered in. It would have been long since finished, if we had been in funds for the purpose. Funds were sent out in the Charlotte Harper, to Bassa Cove, but they have not been made available.—April.

LETTER FROM THE UNITED STATES.—The following letter, from a respected colored friend in Philadelphia, long identified, if not with the open enemies of the Colony, at least with those who can see nothing in the operations of Colonization,

beneficial to any portion of the African race, affords the most pleasing evidence of the energy of truth, when presented candidly and dispassionately to an honest mind. It affords further, the consolation, that our visit to the United States has not been altogether useless, nor our puny address on our return entirely void of effect. We quarrel with none. We are not party men. We are *Africa men*. We protest only against one thing; that is, against occupying the intermediate space between contending parties, and having our brains knocked out by the murderous missiles hurled by the hands of benevolence.

We, however, by no means subscribe to all the sentiments contained in the letter; we regard it simply as showing the state of the colored man's mind in America.

Philadelphia, Sept. 11, 1837.

"MR. TEAGE—I fully concur with you, in your remarks, in one of your numbers, respecting the two great societies in the United States, that have for their object, the great aim of bettering the condition of the colored people. The course taken by you, of visiting this country, and seeing the operation of the Anti-Slavery Society, its direct bearing upon the prejudice of that community, whose slaveholding influence makes us the unhappy wanderers about the world, without a place to call our home; your having visited this country, and seen the care-worn visages of our unhappy people—the great line of demarcation existing between the white and the colored—the servility under which we cringe, as a whole people—the menial occupations which the best of us hold—the remote likelihood, if any at all, of our ever being incorporated and identified among the rulers of this republic—the great contempt in which we are held by the whites, all of which you witnessed whilst on your sojourn here, enabled you to come to the just conclusion put forth in your remarks. Knowing as you do, from the connexion of your office, all the operations of the Colonization Society, its good or bad results to emigrants—its effects, whether the majority of the emigrants are in better circumstances at present in your colony, than you could reasonably suppose they would be in, at this time, had they remained in the United States; and furthermore, the ultimate likelihood of your colony establishing a republic that will redound to the glory of the colored men. It is upon your observations, that the best conclusions must be drawn; your having been a personal observer here, and being a practical operator in your colony, and among the chief directors of all affairs touching the prosperity of your people, at once makes your decision conclusive. The two great societies that so singularly abuse each other, have, as they profess, the same great aim of avoiding a great catastrophe, that each says will be the ultimate consequence of the effect of the other. You are aware that the Colonizationist holds the doctrine that the whites and blacks can never live amicably under the same vine and fig tree; and they draw their conclusions from history, citing that no two nations have ever lived together, unless one did servilely succumb, or that one exterminated the other. And such are weighty inferences with me, from a cursory review of the civilized world, where in every government I see a proscription of a portion of the inhabitants; and ours like the rest, following in the footsteps of that proscriptive policy. On the other side of this momentous question of bettering our condition, the Anti-Slavites hold the historical doctrine, that slavery never failed to bring about a servile war, and that slavery is unchristian, cruel, and that it is a base usurpation of the Divine prerogative to withhold from any individual his or her inalienable rights. So when we take a serious view of the fundamental doctrines promulgated by the two, we find that both of them recommend themselves very pressingly to our deep consideration. In taking an impartial view, we must admit both theoretically, and consequently arises a puzzle, which of the two will operate most beneficially to us as a whole people, in the way of relieving us from the slavery and prejudice that holds us in "durance vile." Finding ourselves in such a puzzle, your reflections come in with great weight, and should at once put a stop to the slander against your colony, and incline the well-wishers of the colored man to examine the two impartially, with an eye single to the working out of the happiness of the colored race, independent of party doctrine or the mad rigmarole of McDuffism."

PROGRESS OF POPULATION.—We hear that a report is circulating in America, that there are very few children born here; and of the few that are born, none live. Now, this stale, wornout, hackneyed, barefaced up and down lie, which was first broached by an American ship Captain, who never told truth, but by mistake, we suppose had ceased to be circulated. But it appears we were

mistaken. It is yet said that the former habits of the people were so licentious, that none of their children live. This falsehood is too gross and unreasonable to require a serious refutation. If it were necessary, an accurate classification of the ages of the inhabitants of the Colony would give as large a number of living children born in the Colony as perhaps any other population in the world of equal number. The rice tub of many a father declares, in language the most unequivocal, that the above is the grossest slander. The first child that was born here, is now alive, and James Brander is his name, and sixteen years is his age, and a sturdier little urchin is not to be found. He has buried many a one,* and if the calumniator that vented the slander will only come out here, he will most probably do the same service for him. How abashed would the slanderer be, if he is capable of blushing, if he could only see the said James Brander baring his head to the scorching rays of a vertical sun, and throwing off the heat as indignantly as we do the slanders back in the teeth of those that attempt to heap them upon us.—*March.*

* He is grave digger.

MORTALITY AMONG COWS, &c.—A desolating mortality is at present raging among the cows, sheep, and hogs, in this settlement. The former have been dying at the fearful rate of four a day. What is most strange and unaccountable, the mortality has been almost exclusively of cows that were with calf. If they should continue to die for a few weeks more, as they have died a week or two past, we shall be reduced from the possession of more cattle than are in all the Colony besides, to a total destitution. The cows are suddenly seized, frequently without any prelusive symptoms, with a shaking similar to what the human frame experiences in the cold stage of the intermittent, when they fall down and die in about one hour. The hogs are taken with a swelling in their throat, which increases rapidly to an enormous size, when they expire as if by suffocation.—*April.*

PROSPECTS AND WANTS.—It is no less a mark of prudence than a source of pleasure to cast now and then a glance at the future, in order to prepare beforehand for the scenes of joy or sorrow which the course of events, and the general tendency of circumstances may render probable. It would indeed indicate a great degree of presumption in a man, to suppose, he has arrived at a certainty this year, of what will be the particulars of his condition the next; yet, in regulating our conduct in regard to the future, by the general tendency of present events, we are authorized by the practice of all ages and the dictates of common sense. In attempting to pierce the dark unknown of Liberia's destiny, we are agitated by the alternation of hope and despair, inspired by the different aspects under which the subject is viewed.

Glancing backwards, we are met by the tenants of a moral tomb, roused by the voice of philanthropy from the sleep of ages, to run the race of empire. But while 'bone moves to its bone, and sinew to its sinew, and the first pulsations of life throb in the heart, and a consciousness of existence beams through the quickened, what strange and unutterable scenes rise to the view. Impressed no less by the novelty, than by the magnitude of the unfolding scene, which a clear and regenerated medium enables us to discover, ramified into innumerable close and important relations, with others yet to be developed, they are contemplated with reverence and awe. The great contrast of the gloomy past, with the glowing scenes of the future, which our fancy at times so fondly paints, added to a sober consciousness of the want of strength to contend against the difficulties, and wisdom to steer through the intricacies of the great field before us, is what depresses us with fear. The growing spirit of philanthropy, the wide diffusion of liberal principles, and above all the declarations of scripture; these at some favored seasons enable us to contemplate it with the certitude of faith.

We can at such highly favored seasons behold these dense and frowning forests, whose melancholy stillness of ages has been broke only by the occasional howl of the wolf and the leopard, yielding their place to populous cities, enlivened by the cheerful occupations of the arts and sciences. The infatuated and degraded native, clothed, and in his right mind, and pursuing the peaceful callings of civilized life. The spear of the wandering Arab, and the scimitar of the murderous Moor, converted into pruning hooks and plough shares. The worship of devils, and every form of superstition and heathenism, succeeded by the peaceful rational religion

of the blessed son of God, and from the centre of the land to the circumference, the nations cemented by one common interest, refined and hallowed by the pure principles of christianity. These are some of the prospects that rise to the view when the subject is contemplated rather under the influence of our wishes, than in connexion with the means by which they are to be accomplished. But here, it is criminal to allow any indulgence to the unchastened sallies of the imagination. The subject is one of immeasurable importance, involving the destiny of millions of rational and immortal beings, and demands to be contemplated only in the light of sober reason, and in connexion with the means adequate to its accomplishment.

Seventeen years have now rolled away since the banner of civilization was unfurled on the heights of Montserrado. This period, though comparatively short, has yet been sufficiently long to correct many erroneous opinions at that time entertained. Events in which it has been prolific—difficulties which have successively presented themselves, have repressed the intemperate zeal of the ardent, repressed the false hope of the visionary, and severely tested the constancy of the friends of Colonization; but they have not wrought the smallest unfavorable impression on the minds of those who formed their opinions upon the deductions of experience, and a knowledge of human nature. That the Colony after a few years of apparent rapid progress, would experience a sudden check, or even reaction, is an event which, at the commencement, it was reasonable to expect. It would be almost a miracle if the course first adopted should be that which the experience of years would pronounce the right one. From this cause alone, (though none other existed in the want of means,) a considerable reaction would result. But when this combines with other causes, the shock must be severe. That such a revulsion has been experienced, is therefore, no argument with us against the prospects of the future. The present existence of the Colony, triumphant as it is, over all the opposition by which it has been successively assailed—opposition as novel in its character as it was unexpected in its appearance, and therefore the more difficult to be overcome, is, with us, a sure pledge of future progress, with the assistance, which at its first foundation, was confidently expected by its patrons, or with only a small portion of the subsidy which similar establishments have in all countries enjoyed.

It was never, for a moment, the idea of those that conceived the Colonization scheme, that voluntary individual aid, or private charities, could conduct the establishment to completion. The utmost object which they aimed to accomplish with such resources, was the demonstration of the practicability of establishing on the African coast, a community of colored people possessing all the attributes of a regular government. This they pledged themselves to do—and this they have done; and Liberia stands to-day a glorious monument of their labors. Numerous auspicious circumstances and coincidences, for which little hope can be longer entertained, contributed largely to their object. The subject when presented for public patronage, was invested with all the interest of novelty. It was altogether unique in its character, in the fact that its objects belonged to the African race; it was destined to exert a happy influence on American slavery and African heathenism; and there was something soul-stirring in a scheme, the scene of whose operations was the unknown of Africa. A thousand benevolent feelings and sympathies clustered around it, and a feverish liberality excited, whose charities were the result of a temporary excitement in favor of an undefined object, rather than the free-will offering of settled principles or enlightened conviction. These days have now passed away. The subject having been long before the public, is entirely divested of all the interest which novelty could give it, and if the much needed aid be at all obtained it must come from another quarter; or, at least, be conveyed through a different channel. The critical period has at length arrived; the period to which the founders of the Colony looked forward with intense anxiety, and at which, they fondly hoped to be sustained by the fostering hand of government. The source of private charity is now nearly exhausted, or at most, affords a supply altogether inadequate to the progressive enlargement of the work, and but little more is yet accomplished than a demonstration of what may be done with efficient patronage.— Shall then an untimely period be put to a work so nobly begun? Shall this glorious sun sink down in darkness at the moment that his beams are piercing the gloom that mantles Africa? Shall our hopes and our prospects be blotted forever? Is there to be no sanctuary on earth for us, from the scorn and scourge of the world. To the untold afflictions we have hitherto suffered, have we yet to add the bitter cup

of disappointment in all we hoped from this last asylum? These are thrilling questions, that ring in reverberating echoes through the soul—questions with whose decision our fate is inseparably connected, and to which, though we are almost exclusively interested in their decision, it remains entirely with others to give satisfactory answers. But this scheme cannot fail; humanity, philanthropy, religion, all are concerned in its success. If, however, Liberia now be thrown upon her own resources; if she be abandoned to her own effort; if she be left to contend with her own unaided strength, against the numerous obstacles and antagonistic influences that surround her, it will be her solitary fate alone, of all the numerous instances of modern colonization to expire in security without the consolation of a sympathetic hand. Without the assistance of foreign aid the Colony cannot maintain its moral character. We have no ground to hope that it will. If it subsist at all, it must be able to maintain an ascendant influence over the surrounding tribes, or melt away—must gradually change their moral and mental character, or insensibly yield to the influence of heathenism; it must be the agent or the subject of a powerful assimilating influence. There are numerous powerful influences at war with the moral character of the Colony, which so far from being innocuous, because they are rarely recognised, are, on that account the more banefully efficient. These influences have been rarely admitted into the list of impediments to colonial improvement, and when noticed at all, have been miserably underrated. This fact, a tendency in all small communities embosomed among heathen, to degenerate, is abundantly confirmed by the condition of the old European Colonies on this coast, many of which can now be known to be such, only by their geographical position or by a corrupt jargon of the mother tongue. This tendency, though the causes are obvious, cannot be successfully combatted by any means in our possession. The truth should not be disguised—for in spite of the utmost unaided endeavor of the Colony it will insensibly yield. This effect can be adequately resisted, only, by the presence of some definite object of a cheering character constantly before the minds of the colonists—something to excite to effort and sustain perseverance; to beget hope and engage their energies. It is the listlessness and despondency, which doubts and uncertainty of the future, and the want of present employment, never fail to produce, which give to this influence its formidable energy. Let internal improvement be going on, and the immense resources of the country be gradually unfolding, inspire, by the present state of things, the hope of future permanent prosperity, and the patriotic spirit of the Colony will rise with the emergencies that demand its energy. Every step the Colony makes towards competency; every successive enlargement of the sphere of its civilized operations, will be also an advance on the dark regions of native customs. And just in proportion as the institutions, manners, and customs of the natives give place to others of a more enlightened character, will that tendency in Colonies to degenerate, be diminished, which now is so much to be dreaded. However great the ardor and energy of a people may be, there are bounds, which their utmost energies cannot transcend. To all human effort there must necessarily be limitations. The aid we ask, and without which, we cannot exist, is by no means an extraordinary boon, to be peculiar in our case; it is only the sustenance that in modern days, has been afforded to all Colonies. If it should be demanded of us, in our weak and infantile state, to carry on, unaided, all necessary internal improvement; to develop the resources of the country; to sustain and consolidate a government; to maintain a commanding attitude in relation to the surrounding tribes; it will be most certainly requiring of us, what no other Colony has yet performed. Is there an instance on the records of modern colonization, in either the eastern or the western hemisphere, that a Colony, whatever were the moral and mental character, and pecuniary circumstances of the individuals composing it, or the resources of the country, in which it was located, sustaining itself without the patronage of the mother country? This aid has always been rendered as a matter of course. And so uniformly has it been afforded, and so necessary has it been considered, that the cost has become the first article of consideration, in contemplating the settlement of a Colony. We are aware that our circumstances have no parallel in the history of the world; and on this hinges our fear. By Americans (a majority at least,) we are regarded a political monster, whom it is no crime to abandon to its fate, as it is ejected from its unnatural womb—a political anomaly—the homeless occupant of the great commons of the civil world—detached from all, allied to none—the legal object of infliction, of indifference, of sympathy: and as such, legally entitled to no patronage from the land which gave us birth, which holds the graves of our

fathers, and in which they and we have toiled, and sweat, and bled. Thus we are thrown upon the charity of the world, and it is the prerogative of posterity alone, to determine whether we have received that countenance and support that justice, and the universal boast of philanthropy, religion, and love, authorize us to expect. Though the Colony cannot exist without the sustaining hand of some foreign friend, yet, comparatively small assistance would enable her to reach speedily the point of self-subsistence. The want of means to develop the resources of the country—to preserve friendly relations among the circumjacent tribes, and thus keep open a regular communication with the interior—to resist the blighting effects of the slave trade—to sustain good and efficient government, is what paralyzes and enervates the Colony, and must, if it continue, operate its complete downfall.—*April.*

LETTERS FROM COLONISTS.

The subjoined letters are from two of the manumitted slaves of the late Mr. Stockdell, of Madison county, Virginia, who emigrated to the Colony last winter, in the ship *Emperor*, addressed to friends in the U. States.

MILLSBURG, LIBERIA, MAY 7, 1838.

I take this opportunity of writing to you a few lines, informing you that I arrived safe on the shores of Africa. Thanks be to God for his good mercy that he has bestowed on me. I have been very sick with the country fever, but I thank God, I am nearly over it. I am in hope that this may find you in good health. I can but say to you that I have hopes that the Lord has been so good and merciful as to convert three of our children since we have been out here; that is to say, Mary Walker and Cilselst have a hope to be changed from darkness to light. I expect you are very anxious to know how I like this new country. I can only say that I am very well satisfied with the place; but my greatest grief is about you. I want to see you very much indeed; and if I cannot see you, pray let me hear from you by letters, and that will give me some satisfaction while I am in this life. Henry Jones is said to be converted also. You know that it is reported that this country is a very hot country; but I find that I can lie under as much cover here of nights, as I could in America. I find that this is a very plentiful country for both man and beast. My afflicted brother Moses, that they all thought could not hold out to cross the sea, is now enjoying good health, and has been more healthy than any of us. The children join with me in love to you and all inquiring friends.

BARBARY STOCKDELL.

MILLSBURG, LIBERIA, MAY 7, 1838.

My Dear Children: I embrace this opportunity of writing a few lines to you all, to let you all know that I arrived safe in Africa and have been very sick since I arrived with the fever of this country: but I thank God that I am now recovering again very fast; and I am in hopes that these few lines may find you all in good health. Children, your old father has been a professor of religion for a long time; and I thank God that I have a greater desire to serve him now; than ever. I have an opportunity of going to Sunday school now every Sunday; and if I never

see you all in this world, my desire is for you all to try and seek and find God precious to your souls, and then serve him faithfully all your days, and be found walking in the light of his countenance, and meet your old father in the kingdom of heaven, where parting will be no more. We are living in the town of Millsburg. We have meeting three times a week, and on the Sabbath, three times in the day. I am very well pleased with the country, and I thank God that I am sent here. If I had my children, I would feel very happy as to this life, although I have been very sick. We all have a very fine crop growing. My love to Colonel Walker and Master Benjamin Scott, and tell them I hope to meet them in the kingdom of God. Nothing more; but remain your affectionate father.

PETER JONES.

EMANCIPATION.

Since our last notice (See Afr. Rep. Vol. 13, p. 295) concerning the slaves manumitted by the will of the late Lee White of Kentucky, we learn that the legal proceedings which it had become necessary for some of them to institute, in order to recover their freedom, had terminated favorably to the petitioners, and that all the slaves manumitted by Mr. White are ready to go by the first vessel which the American Colonization Society may send to Liberia. Provision, but to what extent we are not yet apprized, will be made for defraying the cost of their transfer and settlement.

*Extract of a letter from C. W. Short, dated Lexington, (Ky.)
2d July, 1838:*

My uncle, Mr. William Short of Philadelphia, whom you may know as an able and efficient friend of the Colonization cause, has several slaves in this State, derived through his brother's (my father's) estate, whom he is anxious to liberate. Among them are two, who are willing to go to Liberia; and he has desired me to ascertain the best mode of sending them to that country from this; and I therefore now address you, and beg you to give me all necessary information on the subject—these slaves are able-bodied young men between 20 and 30 years of age—the one an excellent carpenter and *handy* and ingenious at other jobs—the other has been mostly accustomed to farm-work; but lately engaged in brick-laying and plastering, at both of which he is a tolerable workman. They have both had some little instruction in letters, and by the fall, I hope, will have acquired the elements at least of reading and writing. They are unencumbered with families; and both evince a great degree of thankfulness to their owner, and eager desire to avail themselves of his offer of their freedom, on the condition of their going to Liberia.

*Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Frankfort, (Ky.) dated
11th July, 1838.*

There are ten persons of color, in Lincoln County, Ky. (men, women and children,) who are in circumstances to go, and are very anxious to depart for Liberia, so soon as a mode of conveyance shall present

itself. One of the number, a young mulatto man of great intelligence, called on me a few days since, to know when they might expect to leave for Liberia, and all I could say or do was to promise to lay the subject before you, and advise him of the result of the inquiry. They have been hired out some four years, and their guardian or trustee is ready to pay over the funds thus realized, to any person duly authorized to take charge of them.

Please advise me as soon as it may suit your convenience as to the probable time an expedition will leave, and where they must rendezvous.

LETTER FROM MR. LATROBE.

To the Editor of the African Repository.

DEAR SIR: The following appeared in the last number of the Repository. May I ask you to republish it as explanatory of the object of the present communication:

“COMFORT FOR COLONIZATIONISTS.”

An article with the above title appeared in July last, in an abolition newspaper called “Human Rights.” The truth of the statement being assumed, it appears that a gentleman, who, at a meeting of the American Colonization Society, had applauded the scheme of African Colonization, listened to some remarks vituperative of that institution, made by the President of the Maryland Society, and finally abjured colonization, and became an abolitionist. What the one party has lost by this desertion, and what is the value of the acquisition to the other, we know not. But the example is worth something as illustrating the tendency of *disunion* among the friends of Colonization.

The article referred to is as follows:

“*Comfort for Colonizationists.*—A professional gentleman from the West being in Washington, on his way eastward, at the time of a meeting of the American Colonization Society, was prevailed on to make a speech. His eloquence and praise of the “heaven-born scheme” so delighted the Secretary, Mr. Gurley, that he moved on the spot that the gentleman should be appointed an agent, which was carried with great applause. The meeting being over, Mr. Latrobe, of the Maryland Colonization Society, fell in with the gentleman and cautioned him against engaging for the American Society—it was doing nothing but raising a little money to support its officers. The Maryland Society was the one for the work. On the other hand, Mr. Gurley brought objections against the Maryland scheme as sectional, &c. In this way the gentleman was led to suspect that he had not been quite so well informed about Colonization as he might have been.—He pursued his tour eastward; he saw the Colonization proceedings in Philadelphia, about the 17th of May—inquired and reflected,—and on his arrival in New York, signed the Constitution of the American Anti-Slavery Society.”

The gentleman from the West, alluded to in the article from “Human Rights,” is, I presume, a Colonel Caldwell, who called upon me in June last, introduced by the agent of the Maryland State Colonization Society, to whom he had been introduced by a letter from yourself. He sought my acquaintance, I understood, for the purpose of obtaining information in regard to Colonization. I invited him to my house, where, as well as at my office, we conversed much on the subject. Colonel Caldwell left me fully convinced, I thought, of the excellence of the plan; indeed, he had eloquently eulogised it, and was particularly emphatic in his praise. I did not seek to make him a convert; for he had

already given in his adhesion, *as he told me*, by a speech that he had *volunteered* at a Colonization meeting in Washington. I answered his inquiries fully, to the best of my power, and explained to him the plan of independent action pursued in Maryland, contending, I admit, as I have always done, and to no one more strongly than yourself, that it was the best and most efficient. That I asked Col. Caldwell to take service with the Maryland Society—or that I charged the American Colonization Society with exerting only to give salaries to its officers, is wholly untrue; and it is very difficult for me to believe that Col. Caldwell can have so stated, although the article in “Human Rights” would seem to be founded on his representations. I urged Colonel Caldwell to get up a State Colonization Society in *Ohio, where he lived*, and if I spoke of the pecuniary concerns of the American Colonization Society at all, it was only to attribute its *debt* to the insufficiency of its means to meet its expenses. In all that passed between us, there was nothing that I dwelt on more than the harmony of purpose existing between the general Society, and the State Institution.

To learn that Col. Caldwell disclaimed Colonization, and had joined the Abolition Society, did not give me much surprise; for he had stated in the course of our conversation, that he had been a lawyer, then a merchant, also a Colonel in the militia, and was now engaged in a plan for establishing some sort of literary institution, by obtaining subscribers at 200 dollars each, who would have distributed among them every other one of a certain number of lots in the village where he resided; the alternate belonging to the proprietors of the ground; and he frankly stated that he was afraid that to advocate the Colonization cause would interfere with the success of his subscription list—but that if he thought that by advocating the cause, he would help the subscription, he would readily do so. He pressed a friend who was present at the conversation in my office, and myself, to put our names to his list; which we declined. Whether he has been more successful with the friends of abolition, and whether his conversion is connected with such success, I have no means of knowing.

Although not surprised at Col. Caldwell's change, I was surprised that he should have used my hospitality to him to drag me before the public, by name. He was introduced to me as a gentleman, and treating him as such, I spoke frankly and without reserve—though certainly not to the effect mentioned in the article in question.

In the editorial notice that you have taken of the article in “Human Rights,” you say that taking it to be true, Col. Caldwell “listened to remarks from me *vituperative* of the American Colonization Society.” There is certainly nothing in the article to justify the use of the harsh term you have employed. That we differ in opinion as to the best mode of prosecuting the Colonization plan, there is no doubt,—that I believe the prosecution of it should be exclusively in the hands of the States—and that until this is accomplished it will be a subject of fearfully dangerous political discussion, is true; but that I should descend to vituperation of the General Society, Colonel Caldwell does not seem to have asserted, and I regret that you should have imagined it.

Asking the publication of this, as an act of sheer justice, I remain,

with sentiments of the highest personal regard and esteem, most truly yours,

JOHN H. B. LATROBE.

P. S. Absence from Baltimore has delayed an earlier notice of the article in question.

Baltimore, Sept. 2d, 1838.

NOTE.—We are happy to find that the President of the Maryland Colonization Society did not, in his unfortunate dialogue with Mr. Caldwell, charge the Parent Institution with “doing nothing but raising a little money to support its officers.” But we cannot agree with him, that the charge, if made, would not be “vituperative” of that Institution. Dr. Johnson defines “vituperation” to mean “blame, censure.” Now, if a Society, professing objects of the highest moment to two races of men, and to two continents, in point of fact does nothing but levy contributions to support a few individuals, who, on that supposition, must be idlers, a graver imputation can scarcely be imagined. We regret to perceive that the worthy President seems to think lightly of it; and especially as, in the interview referred to, “there was nothing which [he] dwelt on more than the harmony of purpose existing between the institution over which he presides, and the American Colonization Society.” It is not, we apprehend, the “purpose” or the practice of either to do “nothing but raise a little money to support its officers.”

It would gratify the friends of Colonization to be able to infer from the passage just cited, of President Latrobe’s letter, that it is no longer the “purpose” of the Maryland Society that the Parent Institution should consider its “appropriate functions” as being “at an end.” Mr. Caldwell, perhaps, saw no indication of this change of purpose, in the President’s recommendation to him, after he had announced his “adhesion” to the Parent Society, to get up a State Society in Ohio, on the Maryland exclusive plan.

The degrees of “blame or censure” are so numerous, including every variety, from slight disapproval to deep reprobation, that the epithet which we applied to the alleged remarks of President Latrobe, instead of being “harsh,” appears, on re-examination, obnoxious to an opposite criticism. The word is rather feeble from its generality, when used to characterise the imputation which the worthy President was alleged to have made; but which he has, in an honorable spirit of candor promptly disavowed.—ED. AF. REP.

TEXAS AND THE SLAVE TRADE.

Justice requires us to give place to the subjoined communication. The passage to which it objects, appears at p. 213 of our present volume, and in a manner, we candidly admit, calculated to produce the impression that it is an editorial original with this Journal. Such, however, is not the fact. The article of which the passage in question is a part, was copied from another Journal, which, contrarily to our general practice, we omitted to give credit for it, and of which we have forgotten the name. It was undoubtedly, a newspaper of sufficient standing to inspire us with confidence in its statements, or we should not have copied the article. The slip

has, unfortunately, not been preserved. We are, therefore, unable to give the information which Mr. Yates expects; but, as the article was taken from one of our exchange papers, the writer of it will, in all probability, see the following letter, and by promptly meeting the very reasonable expectation of Mr. Yates, enable the public to decide on the issue of fact between them:

SCHENECTADY, N Sept. 4th, 1838.

Rev. R. R. Gurley, Cor. Secretary American Colonization Society.

SIR: In the Christian Intelligencer of 1st September, and in a summary headed "Colonization" from the African Repository, I read the following paragraph:

"TEXAS.—Within the last twelve months, 15,000 negroes have been imported into Texas, it may be said, direct from Africa, as they were transhipped from Africa, many of them not having even been landed there."

As this is a grievous and false charge against the Government and people of Texas, implying as it does, that they were admitted there, and as is of course inferred, that the people of Texas were engaged in the horrid traffic, I feel myself called on, as a citizen of the country, who has made that very subject one of close inquiry and investigation, to ascertain from what source this information is obtained, and during what period the year mentioned, alludes to.

As I am informed you are the proper person to whom I am to apply for this information, I have taken the liberty of addressing you in relation to it, and should be happy to receive an answer from you, at your earliest convenience.

I shall also expect, in proof of the falsity of this charge, to have as full and public a denial of its truth given, as has been the charge itself. I have taken pleasure in enrolling myself among the life members of your Society in New York, and I deeply regret that any thing like misrepresentation, calculated to excite unwarrantable prejudices against an abused and injured people, should have found a place in the columns of its official periodical.

I remain, Sir, very respectfully and truly,
Your obedient servant,
A. J. YATES.

THE LADIES' COLONIZATION SOCIETY OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

The following acceptable letter, enclosing a draft for \$77.90 has been received by the Secretary of the American Colonization Society.

REV. AND DEAR SIR: I have been desired to forward to you the Constitution of the Ladies' Colonization Society of this place, with a request to be admitted as auxiliary to your Society. This Society is composed of some of our most respectable ladies, although, as yet, small in number. The above draft, after deducting the premium, is the amount which they have collected since their organization, about 14 months.

since. Out of this amount they wish to pay for two copies of the Liberia Herald, and the balance to be appropriated as your Society may deem best. One copy of the Herald to be directed to Mrs. Noah H. Swayne, and one to Mrs. Isaac N. Whiting, and sent by mail.

Very respectfully,

I. N. WHITING.

Columbus, Ohio, Sept., 4th, 1838.

COLONIZATION MEETINGS.

[From the Warren News-Letter.]

COLONIZATION MEETING AT HARTFORD, OHIO.—The 7th anniversary of the Hartford Colonization Society was celebrated at the Presbyterian Meeting House, in this place, on the 4th inst., at two o'clock. Agreeably to previous arrangements, the Rev. Mr. Steadman, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was present to vindicate the principles and objects of the primary institution. The objects of the meeting being announced by the President of the Society, the exercises commenced by prayer, offered by the Rev. Mr. Plimpton. Mr. Steadman then proceeded to address the assembly in a most able defence of the benevolent project of colonizing free people of color, and by the pertinency and force of his arguments, he held his numerous and intelligent audience in almost breathless silence for the space of nearly an hour and twenty minutes, after having listened to two previous lectures by chosen speakers of the Anti-Slavery Society. The success with which his effort was crowned may be readily apprehended by the accession of members, and the replenishing of its funds, at the time and since the meeting; between eighty and one hundred having signed the constitution, and rising forty dollars is now in the treasury.

The Society came to order by notice from the Secretary, the President in the chair.

On motion, the committee appointed to prepare and present resolutions expressive of the sense of the Society, reported the following, which were unanimously adopted.

Resolved 1st, That we recommend to the friends of the colored man, to unite in memorializing Congress for a grant of certain lands suitable for planting a Colony within the territory of the United States.

Resolved 2d, That a committee of three be appointed to correspond with other Societies and friends of the Colonization cause in this county upon the subject of reviving the County Society, and report to this society at a subsequent meeting.

Resolved 3d, That this Society deeply sympathize with their abolition brethren, whose measures have hitherto failed to accomplish the avowed objects of their Constitution, and that they be and are hereby sincerely and earnestly requested to abjure their present system of operations, by substituting the principles and constitution of the American Colonization Society, to guide their future steps in promoting the grand object of ultimate and universal emancipation of southern slaves.

Resolved 4th, That we recommend to the County Society, the appointment of an agent, whose business it shall be to advance the cause of Colonization by lecturing through the county and organizing auxiliaries to the County Society, the ensuing year.

Resolved 5th, That the Rev. Mr. Plimpton, G. C. Reed, Alva Hart, be the committee to carry into effect the object of the 2d resolution.

Resolved 6th, That the thanks of this Society be respectfully tendered to the Rev. Mr. Steadman, for his very efficient services on this anniversary.

Resolved 7th, That the President and Secretary sign their names to the proceedings of the Society, and be a committee to prepare copies and furnish the same to the Editors of the News Letter and the Reserve Chronicle, for publication.

The following gentlemen were elected officers of the Society for the ensuing year, and the meeting adjourned, to wit:—

Wm. Jones, *President*: T. Brockway, Esq., *Vice President*: G. C. Reed, *Secretary*: J. A. Gould, *Treasurer*: Dea. C. Andrews, Alva Hart, J. B. Buttles, *Managers*: B. T. Chase, G. W. Benton, E. Fox, J. Jones, G. Heslip, *Committee of Vigilance*.

Upon review, the Society congratulates itself with the accumulation of much honor and interest as the fruit of the meeting, and believe that, by the suffrages of an enlightened public, and the smiles of a benignant Providence, it is destined greatly to elevate the character and condition of a great mass of Africa's exiles, and ultimately to diffuse the genial and blended influence of the sun of science and righteousness through the vast expanse of Africa's moral gloom, to which, let all the people say "Amen."

ALVA HART, Chairman.

G. C. REED, Secretary.

BILLINGS O. PLIMPTON, GARRY C. REED, *Committee*.

JOHNSTOWN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.—At a meeting of a number of citizens of Johnstown, held at the Presbyterian Church, on the evening of Monday, the 30th July, 1838, for the purpose of forming a Colonization Society, J. Royer was appointed Chairman, and F. Leyde Sec'y.

A Constitution having been prepared and read, on motion, Samuel Kennedy and Moses Canan were appointed a committee to wait on the people present and solicit their subscriptions to the Constitution, who reported the names of thirty-six members.

Samuel Kennedy, Frederick Leyde, and George W. Kern, were, on motion, appointed a committee to solicit the subscription of the citizens generally, and to report to an adjourned meeting, to be held at the same place on the evening of Monday next, when the Society will be organized by the election of officers.

JOHN ROYER, Chairman.

F. LEYDE, Secretary.

[From the *Christian Intelligencer*, August 4, 1838.]

CHEERING INTELLIGENCE FROM BASSA COVE.—In a letter recently received from Edina, the Colony is represented as unusually healthy, and every thing in a highly prosperous condition. The intelligence respecting the spiritual state of the settlement is particularly interesting. During a revival of religion which occurred some time since, 47 of the inhabitants were hopefully converted, and are now not only rejoicing in their freedom from temporal bondage, but from the worst slavery of sin; and are now exulting in the light and liberty of the gospel. The frame of a Presbyterian Church has been raised in Bassa Cove, the Baptists were erecting a house for their worship at Edina, under a large tree beneath which human sacrifices were once offered to the devil; and the Episcopalians contemplate the erection of a church at Bexley, a colony recently founded on the St. John's river by the New York and Pennsylvania Colonization Societies.

CONTRIBUTIONS

To the American Col. Society from July 20, to Aug. 20, 1838.

Collections in Churches.

Agnew's Mills, Richland Congregation, Rev. John Glenn,	-	-	\$5
Alexandria, 1st Presbyterian Church, Rev. E. Harrison,	-	-	58 35
2d do. Rev. Dr. Hill,	-	-	21 80
Methodist do.	-	-	8 25
Concord, Mass., 1st Religious Society, Rev. E. Ripley and B. Fort,	-	-	15
Dandridge, Ten., Methodist Church, Rev. T. R. Catlett,	-	-	7
Fairfield, N. J., Presbyterian Church, Rev. Ethan Osborn,	-	-	5
Fishkill, N. Y., Reformed Dutch Church, Rev. F. M. Kip,	-	-	16
Gettysburg and Hill Congregations, (sent to enable the Society to pay debts that they had an agency in contracting.)	-	-	10
Hillsborough, Ohio, Methodist Church, Rev. J. M. D. Matthews,	-	-	11
Morgantown, Va., Presbyterian Church, Rev. James Davis,	-	-	10
Newark, Ohio, Rev. Wm. Wylie,	-	-	15
Ringoes, N. J., Rev. J. Kirkpatrick,	-	-	33
Washington City, Wm. Douglass, at Rev. Mr. M'Lain's Church,	-	-	5
Methodist Protestant Church, 9th street,	-	-	10 46

Donations.

Abingdon, Va., from a friend,	-	-	3
Alexandria, John Withers,	-	-	5
Miss E. B. Winter	-	-	1
Annapolis, John Ridout,	-	-	6
Athens, Ga., Union Sunday School Society,	-	-	6
Chester District, Lewisville, S. C., Wm. Moffatt,	-	-	30
Fredericksburg, by Friends of the Society,	-	-	6
Marietta, Ohio, George Dana,	-	-	20
D. Woodbridge,	-	-	10
Mussey, Dr. Reuben D.	-	-	10
New Orleans, S. J. Peters, (2 years subscription.)	-	-	100
J. A. Maybin, (2 years do. with interest on 1st year.)	-	-	105
Orange County, Va., from the proceeds of a Fair,	-	-	63
Washington City, Collection in 4th Ward,	-	-	54

Life Subscribers.

David Faris, Esq., Triadelphia, Ohio County, Va.,	-	-	50
Mrs. Mary Brown, do.	-	-	50
Mrs. Dorothy Hervey, Wellsburg, Brooke County, Va.,	-	-	50
(Transmitted by Adam Faris, Esq., to make his three children life subscribers of this Society.)			

Auxiliary Societies.

Crawford County Col. Soc., a collection made after a Discourse by the Rev. Mr. Crampton \$19—donation \$3	-	-	25
Fredericksburg Female Society, by Miss Susan Metcalfe, Tr., (stating that the amount had been the result of three years collections.)	-	-	240
With this amount this Society returned to this Society our acknowledgement for \$160 remitted two years ago, to be appropriated to establish a school, and requested that the amount be used for general purposes.			

\$1064 86

African Repository.

Ebenezer Watson, Agent, Albany, N. Y.,	-	-	\$52 43
John H. Eaton, Agent, New York,	-	-	30
Wm. Moffatt, Lewisville, Chester District, S. C.,	-	-	2
John Pilson, Albemarle, Va.,	-	-	5
Athens, Geo., Union Sunday School Society,	-	-	2
Augusta, Geo., Mrs. A. A. Nisbit,	-	-	2
Mrs. Lucy Conway and Miss Agnes A. Paynter, \$2 each,	-	-	4
John Noyes, Putney, Vt.,	-	-	10
Gen. A. Rose, Bridgehampton, New York,	-	-	6
John Ridout, Annapolis, Md.,	-	-	4
Joseph F. Whitmore, Andover, Ohio,	-	-	3

Resolutions of the Board.

The following Resolutions in regard to a distribution of the African Repository and Colonial Journal, have been adopted by the Board of Managers.

Monday, December 22, 1828.

Resolved, That after the 1st of March next, the African Repository shall be sent to all such Clergymen as have this year taken up collections on or about the 4th of July for the Society, and shall be continued to them as long as they shall continue annually to take up collections.

Resolved, That all the subscribers on the plan of Gerrit Smith, Esq. shall be also entitled to the work.

Resolved, That all Life Members of the Society shall, if they request it, be entitled to the work for the period of three years.

Resolved, That every Annual Subscriber to the Society of ten dollars or more, shall also be entitled to the Repository.

Resolved, That the Repository be sent to the Superintendent of each Sunday-School, which may annually take up a collection for the Society."

NOTICE.

It is requested that all collections, donations, or subscriptions to the American Colonization Society, be transmitted by mail, if no private opportunity offers, to JOSEPH GALES, Sen'r. Esq. Treasurer of the Society, Washington City; with whom the collecting Agents of the Society will also correspond. With the collections in the churches, the Society expects to receive the names of the Clergymen of the several congregations in which they were made.

All communications, relating to the general interests of the Society, or the Editorial Department of the Repository, to be directed to R. R. GURLEY, Secretary, Washington.

All communications, relating to the pecuniary concerns of the Repository, to be directed to JAMES C. DUNN, Washington, D. C.

Agents for the African Repository

Travelling Agents.

Rev. Wm. Matchet.

Rev. Dr. Booth.

Joshua Humphrey,

Dr. Ezekiel Skinner,

Thos. L. Jones,

NEW YORK — *New York City.*

John H. Eaton, 69 Beekman st.

Albany.

Ebenezer Watson.

PENNSYLVANIA. — *Philadelphia.*

E. Brown, 51 South 5th Street.

MAINE,

Rev. Asa Cummings, *Portland.*

J. Holway, *West Machias.*

MASSACHUSETTS.

Oliver Parsons, *Salem.*

CONNECTICUT

W. Stebbins, 107 Chapelst. *New Haven.*

D. F. Robinson and Co. *Hartford.*

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John Kinney, Jr. *Belvidere.*

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Benjamin Brand, *Richmond.*

MARYLAND. — *Baltimore.*

Samuel Young.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Dr. Wm. H. Williams of *Raleigh.*

John C. Ehrlinghaus, *Elizabeth City.*

Nathan Winslow, *Newby's Bridge.*

MISSISSIPPI,

Rev. Wm. Winans, *Centreville.*

OHIO,

E. Easton, *Cincinnati.*

LIBERIA — *Africa:*

James Brown, *Monrovia.*

The African Repository

Can now be had, from its commencement, on application to the
Publisher, Washington City, either bound or in numbers; several
numbers having been reprinted.

Plan of Gerrit Smith, Esq.

This Gentleman has proposed to raise \$100,000, for the Society, in ten years,
by securing 100 subscribers, who will pay \$100 annually, during that time. The
following have already subscribed.

Gerrit Smith Peterboro' New York,
Jasper Corning, Charleston, S Carolina,
Theodore Frelinghuysen, New Ark, N J
John T Norton, Albany, N Y
E F Backus, New Haven Connecticut,
A gentlemen in Mississippi,
Matthew Cary, Philadelphia,
William Crane, Richmond Virginia,
Fleming James, do
A Friend in Virginia,
Rev Ebenezer Burgess, Dedham, Ms,
Mrs M H Carrington Mrs Ann Fontaine } \$100 annually by
Wm A Carrington, P S Carrington, } equal contributions
Gen Edward Carrington, and Walter C. Carrington.
A few Gentlemen near Oak Hill, Fauquier county Va.
Robert Ralston, Philadelphia.
Elliot Cresson, do
Robert Gilmor, Baltimore.
George Burwell, Frederick county Va.
Association of 20 persons in Rev Dr Meads Parish, Frederick county Va
Hon Edward M'Gehee, Mississippi.
Rev Dr James P Thomas, Louisiana.
Four Young Gentlemen in Alexandria, D. C.,
The Aux Col Society of Georgetown D. C
A friend in Fredericktown, Md,
Another Subscription on the plan of Gerret Smith, in Bishop M a
Congregation, Frsderick county Va,
John Gray Fredericksburg, Va.
Solomon Allen, Philadelphia, Pa,
Gortland Van Rensselaer, Albany N. Y.
Female Col Society of Georgetown, D. C,
Gen John Hartwell Cocke of Virginia
Thomas Buffington, Guyandott, Va,
Judge Burnett, of Ohio,
Nicholas Brown, Providence R. I.
An association of Gentlemen in Kenhawa co, Va.
Jacob Towson of Williamsport, Md.
E- C, Delavan, Albany, New York
Thomas C Upham, Brunswick: Mai
Hon T Emerson, Windsor Vermont,
Judge Porter, of New Orleans,
Judge Workman, do
John McDonogh, do
Auxiliary Colonization Society, Wilmington Delaware,
Hon John Ker, of Louisiana,
John Linton, do
D I Burr, Richmond Va,
Auxiliary Colonization Society, Hampshire county Massachuset
Thomas Napier, Northampton Massachusetts,
John S Walton of New Orleans,
Auxiliary Colonization Society, of Portland Maine,
Auxiliary Society of Essex county New Jersey,
Archibald McIntyre, New York,
Presbytery of Mississippi,
Rev Charles W Andrews, Frederick county Va